

## IN THE CLAIMS

### **Claims pending:**

- At time of the Action: 1-29, 31-41, 45-51, and 55-56
- After this Response: 1-18, 20-29, 31-41, and 45-51

**Currently Amended claims:** 1-18, 20, 21, 25-29, 31-36, 38, 41, 45, and 50

**Canceled or Withdrawn claims:** 19, 55, and 56

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, implement a taskbar player, the taskbar player ~~A user interface~~ comprising:

a player deskband; and

a player controller, the player controller configured to implement a graphical player user interface that enables a user to select media-playing services, the player user graphical interface integrated into an operating system shell's existing taskbar user interface of an operating system shell and including multiple controls for selection of the media-playing services, the multiple controls displayed simultaneously in the operating system shell's taskbar user interface of the operating system shell and including at least a play control, a pause control, or a stop control.

2. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein the graphical player user interface further enables the user to select media-playing services with a single click of a mouse.

3. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein the graphical player user interface further enables the user to select media-playing services with a single click of a mouse when another application running in another process is in perspective.

4. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 3, wherein the perspective includes the other application being in focus.

5. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein the ~~graphical~~ player user interface further enables the user to select media-playing services without altering a perspective of another application running in another process.

6. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein the multiple controls include buttons for selection of the media-playing services.

7. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein the multiple controls enable selection of the media-playing services including services that stop and pause a first media file being played and start a second media file.

8. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein the multiple controls include a control button for selection of the media-playing services including a service that alters a size for a presenting of a visual aspect of a media file.

9. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, wherein the multiple controls include a control button for selection of the media-playing services including a service that alters a volume for a playback of an audio aspect of a media file.

10. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, further comprising:

a visual space for presenting ~~[[of]]~~ visual media.

5 11. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, further comprising:

a visual space for presenting ~~[[of]]~~ visual media;

wherein the ~~graphical~~ player user interface enables the user to select media-playing services to alter the presenting in the visual space.

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12. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, further comprising:

a visual space for presenting metadata associated with a media file.

15 13. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium ~~user interface~~ of claim 1, further comprising:

a visual space for presenting metadata associated with a media file,

wherein the ~~graphical~~ player user interface enables the user to select media-playing services to present metadata associated with the media file.

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**14.** (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a media-playing application in computer memory executing in a shell process of an operating system, the media-playing application including a player deskband and a player controller, the player controller configured to enable the  
5 ~~media-playing application capable of enabling~~ a user to control media through a player user interface having multiple controls integrated into an existing taskbar user interface associated with the shell process, the multiple controls comprising at least one of a play control, a pause control, a stop control, a previous track control, a next track control, a volume control, a mute control, a metadata control, a visual  
10 space control, a switch play control, or a library control, the multiple controls displayed in the taskbar.

**15.** (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein preferences for displaying the player user interface in the existing taskbar user interface are  
15 retained by the media-playing application for future use.

**16.** (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the media-playing application is capable of receiving preferences for how the player user interface is displayed and used that are received from the user through another application  
20 executing in the shell process.

**17.** (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, ~~further comprising a player deskband,~~ wherein the player deskband is capable of receiving preferences relating to the player user interface and sending the preferences to the media-playing  
25 application.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein ~~the media-playing application comprises a deskband and a controller~~, the deskband is configured to communicate with the shell process and the operating system, ~~the controller configured to enable the user to control media through the user interface.~~

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19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the media-playing application is capable of creating the player user interface to have a minimum visual size on the existing taskbar user interface.

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21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the media-playing application is capable of creating the player user interface following a skin file containing text, art, and script parameters.

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22. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the media-playing application is capable of presenting visual media.

23. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the media-playing application is capable of presenting audio media.

20

24. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the media-playing application is capable of presenting metadata associated with a media file being presented by the media-playing application.

25

25. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a deskband;

a player controller;

a playback module;

5 a visual space; and

a player user interface,

wherein:

the player controller is capable of creating the player user interface;

10 the player user interface is integrated within an ~~operating-system shell's~~ existing taskbar user interface associated with an operating system shell and is capable of enabling a user to input preferences for play of a media file, the player user interface including multiple controls that are displayed simultaneously in the existing taskbar user interface associated with the operating system shell including at least a play control, a pause  
15 control, or a stop control; and

the playback module is capable of rendering the media file to enable the player controller to present the media file in the visual space and with the visual space remaining visible over all other windows on a screen in which the player user interface and ~~operating-system shell's~~ the existing  
20 taskbar user interface associated with the operating system shell is presented.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, ~~further comprising a deskband,~~ wherein the deskband is capable of aiding the player controller in  
25 determining parameters for the player user interface to conform by communicating with an operating system that governs the ~~operating-system shell's~~ existing taskbar user interface associated with the operating system shell.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, ~~further comprising a deskband,~~ wherein the deskband is capable of building a file containing parameters for the player user interface to conform to an operating-system shell governing the ~~operating-system shell's existing taskbar~~ user interface associated with the operating system shell.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the visual space is graphically connected to the player user interface.

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the player user interface includes media-playing services that stop, play, pause, skip forward or backward through, and change to a next or previous track of the media file.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the player user interface is capable of enabling the user to input preferences through dragging and dropping an icon representing a media file onto the visual space or the player user interface.

32. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the player user interface and the playback module execute in different processes.

33. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the player user interface and the playback module execute in one process.

34. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the player user interface executes in a first process governing the ~~operating system shell's~~ existing taskbar user interface associated with the operating system shell, the playback module executes in a second process, and the player user interface includes a button to select a service that switches presentation of media from the visual space to a second visual space created by an application running in the second process.

35. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:  
presenting, by a player controller of a taskbar player, a player ~~graphical~~ user interface having multiple controls and integrated into an ~~operating system's~~ existing taskbar user interface of an operating system shell, the multiple controls displayed simultaneously in the existing taskbar user interface and including at least a play control, a pause control, or a stop control, the taskbar player further including a deskband; and  
enabling, without the ~~graphical~~ player user interface being in perspective, a user to select media-playing services through the multiple controls of the ~~graphical~~ player user interface.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the enabling is performed also without the ~~graphical~~ player user interface being in focus.

37. (Original) The method of claim 35, further comprising:  
presenting a media file in accord with the selected media-playing services.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising:  
presenting a visual media file in a visual space integrated with the ~~graphical~~ player user interface in accord with the selected media-playing services.



39. (Original) The method of claim 35, further comprising:  
presenting a visual media file in a visual space without the visual space  
being in perspective.

5 40. (Original) The method of claim 35, further comprising:  
presenting a visual media file in a visual space without the visual space  
being in focus.

41. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-  
10 executable instructions that perform the following when executed by a computer:  
present, via a player controller of a taskbar player, a ~~media-control~~ player  
user interface having multiple controls in a first process for controlling services  
associated with playing media, the multiple controls displayed simultaneously in  
an ~~operating system's existing~~ taskbar of an operating system shell and including  
15 at least a play control, a pause control, or a stop control, the taskbar player further  
including a deskband; and

enable a user that is actively engaged with a ~~non-media-control~~ non-player  
user interface in a second process to interact with the ~~media-control~~ player user  
interface through selection of one or more of the multiple controls by clicking one  
20 time on one of the multiple controls without disengaging from the ~~non-media-~~  
~~control~~ non-player user interface.

42. (Canceled)

25 43. (Canceled)

44. (Canceled)

**45.** (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 41, wherein the interaction with the ~~media-control~~ player user interface further includes a single keystroke.

5 **46.** (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 41, further comprising:

provide media-playing services based on the interaction.

**47.** (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 41, further  
10 comprising:

present visual media in a visual space if the interaction includes a selection to present visual media.

**48.** (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 41, further  
15 comprising:

present visual media with aid from a playback module executing in the first process if the interaction includes a selection to present visual media.

**49.** (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 41, further  
20 comprising:

present visual media with aid from a playback module executing in a third process if the interaction includes a selection to present visual media.

**50.** (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions that perform the following when executed by a computer:

create, via a player controller of a taskbar player, a first player user interface with graphically selectable media-control services and running in a first process, the first player user interface integrated into an ~~operating system's~~ existing taskbar of an operating system shell and including multiple controls including at least a play control, a pause control, or a stop control, the play control, pause control, or stop control displayed simultaneously in the taskbar, the taskbar player further including a deskband; and

enable selection of the media-control services while an additional ~~second~~ user interface running in a second process remains in perspective.

**51.** (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 50, wherein the media-control services include initiating and ceasing play of a media file.

**52.** (Canceled)

**53.** (Canceled)

**54.** (Canceled)

**55.** (Canceled)

**56.** (Canceled)